



Notes from the British Riding Club Development Forum held on 5 June 2017

Matters Arising

- Scoring at qualifiers
 - Program to Committee to test
 - New data protection issues
- Succession planning for new Area Representatives
 - More structured role description & admin
 - 'Mentor' system
 - Visit from HQ
- Distance to Championships and clashing with other disciplines
 - New venues visited: SummerHouse, Houghton & Huntingdon, Addington, Sommerford Park, Dallas Burston, Onley Grounds, Arena UK, Hartpury
- Now sharing dates with other governing bodies
- DTM prelim entry fees
 - No potential for a discount from BD, but will re-visit
- Increasing interest in becoming Official Stewards and running qualifiers
 - Organiser training 2016 / 2017
 - More rewards for volunteers
- Education of Junior riders – pace of riding
 - FOH – increased number of incidents
 - Rider article start of 2018
- More example text like the suggested constitutions
 - Draft Datasheets:
 - Things to Include in Schedules
 - What to Put on Entry Forms
 - Expenses for Officials
 - Vehicle Parking at Events
 - Dealing with Conflict
 - Code of Conduct
 - How to Raise a Complaint
 - Clubs changing Names
 - More Opportunities
- New Grassroots Points League – Steady entries. Needs promotion at Area level
- Lack of Riding Test and Style Judging opportunities and progression up the judging level

- RT and Style League – discontinued due to lack of interest
 - Instructors / BD Judges – can be used to judge with judging data sheet
- Late entry fees
 - Late stabling fees – helped with numbers
- Walk / Trot test at Lincoln – direct entry all members
- More XC & SJ Grassroots training for 2017
- Volunteer Rewards:
 - Prize draw at each Championship for Amazon vouchers
 - Volunteer Ambassador
 - Volunteer of the Year Award
 - Steward of the Year Award
 - Dressage Writer of the Year Award
 - Fence Judge of the Year Award
 - Team Volunteer gifts
 - Lunch for all dressage writers
 - Invitation to Hickstead
 - Prize draw winner for tickets each year
 - Hats & BP update
 - Volunteer Training Videos – coming soon
- Hats and Body Protectors
 - New EN1384 2017 – September?
 - VG1 awaiting to hear of consequences on this standard with EN re-introduction
 - New SNELL 2016
 - BETA Level 3 2009 only after 1 January 2018
 - New BP standard due next year?
 - Multi-discipline hat tag
- Dressage at Lincoln – site visit in July to check the ground in new area
- TV Adverts – Horse Trials filming
- BS & BD Opportunities – Combined Training (BD) and Just for Schools (BS)
- New Venue for 2018 Novice Winters
 - Arena UK
 - More space
 - More parking
 - Opportunity to remove App 11 and invite all arena winners as per Handbook
- Interdressage entries up by over 100
- New membership / affiliation categories – discussions have started to consider
- New BHS First Aid qualification now accepted £111
- BRC insurance
 - Tilting and car boot sales as fundraisers now covered
 - Property Insurance clarification – not accidental damage; 3rd party cover for land owner
 - Employers Liability Insurance also covers volunteers
- Club Matters Workshops – <https://www.sportenglandclubmatters.com/>
- Security at night at Championships

- 2018 Dates:
 - OS Training 10-11 February
 - Novice Winter Champs 14-15 April
 - Intermediate Winter Champs 27-29 April
 - Festival of the Horse 19-20 May OR 26-27 May TBC
 - Horse Trials 3-5 August TBC
 - National Championships 1-2 September
 - DTM TBC
 - Quadrille TBC
- BRC Advisory Committee Applications – November 2017

BRC Rule Updates

- Stop watches permitted for Horse Trials at all levels
 - FEI changes for Horse Trials
 - Ear pieces in warm up areas
- See BRC Handbook page of website for further details <http://www.bhs.org.uk/enjoy-riding/british-riding-clubs/brc-handbook>

BRC Strategy

- Increase the number of members
 - New membership / affiliation categories?
 - More for Grassroots / non-competitive
 - Increase the number of activities for recreational riders
 - Grassroots training
 - Camps
 - Fun rides
 - Recreational qualifications
 - Social
- Increase grassroots training
 - More in 2017
 - Planned again for 2018 – dressage and SJ
- More Areas
- Promote qualifications
 - Participation Project
 - Club / Area / National Training
 - Training and support of volunteers
 - Accredited course for Official Stewards in progress
- Organiser Training in 2017 / 2018
 - Club Matters Workshops
- National competition opportunities
 - Six Championships
 - New classes – 70cm SJ, Adv. Med Dressage, Walk & Trot at Lincoln, 110cm SJ

BRC Finances

- Will be reported on in November Rider Magazine

Area Rep Open Forum

The following topics were discussed by Area Reps:

- Novice and Intermediate Winter Dressage
 - Should a restriction be imposed so can only compete at one Championship in dressage over winter
 - Should the Novice Winter Dressage be four Prelim Tests
 - Should the Intermediate Winter Dressage be as Open Dressage in summer of three Novice Tests and one Elementary or two novice and two elementary
 - Prelim Test at Intermediate and its purpose

BRC will do further research on this matter and will write a proposal to distribute for member feedback.

- Decline of entries in qualifiers
 - Some have decreased and some areas had increase
 - Use of open classes to bulk up entries
 - Continue to monitor as fluctuates year on year due to various factors
- Prelim entries – it was suggested to increase Championship fee and remove Prelim entry fees
 - Championship fee would increase drastically, so keeping the costs spread out is preferably
 - An article will be produced for Rider to show what the prelim entry covers
- Increasing venue hire costs
 - Unfortunately all venues are in the same boat due to rate changes
 - Areas can contact BRC direct for ideas to help make qualifiers more viable as each area is different
- The cost of travelling to championships
 - £5 stable fee on Sunday for those who travel from Areas 1, 22 and 23. This will be looked at to increase to any club travelling overseas and other areas depending on the Championship venue
- Horse Trials ground conditions
 - Final year of contract with Swalcliffe, ideas for venues welcome
 - BRC are liaising with Swalcliffe to improve the ground at this venue
- Eligibility for higher level riders on new/young horses
 - Reduction from 1 January on the BRC HT 80 and BRC CH80
 - Prelim test introduced at Intermediate Winter Championship
 - No rider restrictions on SJ
- Competing on grass
 - Using a surface at qualifier and Champs over the summer was discussed but no venue has enough surface to cover National Championships even if Championship is split

- Junior membership
 - Introduction of Junior Area Representative will hopefully aid junior members express what they would like to get out of BRC membership
 - Area 10 have very good junior membership and have Junior Committee so possibility to learn from this area going forward
- Stabling at Championships
 - Novice Winter Championship will be new venue for 2018
 - Intermediate Winter Championship had improved the permanent stables for 2017. The reason for the stable situation at the Intermediate was that they had previously had Pony of the Year show at the venue; the stables remained for the BRC Championship but were due to be pulled down the following day. As enough stables on site, BRC told competitors to pick their stable if in this block as no point in competitors or the venue using their time to remove muck if tractor can do the job once stables were removed
 - Aston Le Walls stables also greatly improved
 - Unknown at present for remaining Championships.

Rider Weight and How to Address

Area Officials received a presentation on Rider Weights and how to address a difficult situation.

If you would like a copy of the presentation please contact Jennie Pallett: jennie.pallett@bhs.org.uk

Q & A

- Query over the handbook being too large and difficult to find items
 - Options to be looked into
- Travelling long distances
 - A data sheet will be produced
- Look at communicating in different ways such as video blogs etc.
 - Format of Development Forum to be re-considered
- Concerns were raised over the 110cm being diluted with the addition of 100cm
 - Hope is not to lose entries as those who competed in 110cm last year were eligible to compete in the Intermediate SJ, will be reviewed after first year
- Concerns over standard of 70cms
 - Not all areas had qualifiers yet so unable to address, will be reviewed after first year
- Riding Test Judges and Training
 - It was agreed current format is not working with a review of the panel to be discussed
- Clarification was sought on whether trainers should be APC's and it was confirmed that although not required is recommended to ensure first aid etc. is covered. A data sheet is in circulation to confirm this
- It was queried as to whether any training for the Scoring database. Chris Walton to investigate options.

If you would like any further information on any of these points raise, please contact the office either on 02476 840518 or email a member of the BRC team.